

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An insertion device for inserting into the eye a deformable intraocular lens in which at least an optical portion is formed of an elastic material having predetermined memory characteristics or a deformable intraocular lens in which at least an optical portion is formed of an elastic material having predetermined memory characteristics and which has a supporting portion for supporting the optical portion within the eye, wherein said insertion device comprises an enclosing member for receiving and holding the deformable intraocular lens in an enclosed manner, said enclosing member having a plurality of hinge portions.

2. An insertion device for inserting into the eye a deformable intraocular lens in which at least an optical portion is formed of an elastic material having predetermined memory characteristics and which has a supporting portion made of a material different from that of the optical portion and adapted to support the optical portion within the eye, wherein said insertion device comprises an enclosing member for receiving and holding the deformable intraocular lens in an enclosed manner, said enclosing member having a plurality of hinge portions.

3. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 1, wherein said deformable

intraocular lens is placed in said enclosing member in advance.

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4. An insertion device for inserting into the eye a deformable intraocular lens in which at least an optical portion is formed of an elastic material having predetermined memory characteristics or a deformable intraocular lens in which at least an optical portion is formed of an elastic material having predetermined memory characteristics and which has a supporting portion for supporting the optical portion within the eye, wherein said insertion device comprises an enclosing member for receiving and holding the deformable intraocular lens in an enclosed manner, and said deformable intraocular lens is placed in said enclosing material in advance such a manner that at least a peripheral edge portion of the lens is engaged with said enclosing member.

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5. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 4, wherein said peripheral edge portion of the lens is an outer circumferential edge of the optical portion of the lens.

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6. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 4, wherein said enclosing member is separated from a body of said insertion device, and engages said body when the deformable intraocular lens is inserted

into the eye.

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7. An insertion device for inserting into the eye a deformable intraocular lens in which at least an optical portion is formed of an elastic material having predetermined memory characteristics or a deformable intraocular lens in which at least an optical portion is formed of an elastic material having predetermined memory characteristics and which has a supporting portion for supporting the optical portion within the eye, said insertion device comprising:

(a) an enclosing member for receiving and holding the deformable intraocular lens in an enclosed manner, said enclosing member having at least one hinge portion that allows said enclosing member to be closed in order to deform the deformable intraocular lens; and

(b) a holder for closing said enclosing member and maintaining the closed state.

8. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 7, wherein said enclosing member has two or more hinge portions.

9. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 7, wherein said enclosing member having said hinge portions has grooves on the inner surface in order to receive and hold the deformable intraocular lens.

10. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 7, wherein said enclosing member having said hinge portions and said holder are integrally built in said body.

11. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 7, wherein said enclosing member having said hinge portions is an independent part.

12. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 7, wherein said holder is an independent part.

13. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 7, wherein said enclosing member having said hinge portions and said holder are integrated together and are separated from said body.

14. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 7, wherein said enclosing member having said hinge portions and said holder are transparent.

15. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 7, wherein said enclosing member having said hinge portions is transparent and said holder has an opening serving as an observation window.

16. An insertion device for a deformable intraocular lens according to Claim 7, further comprising a retainer member for maintaining said enclosing member having said hinge portions in an opened state when the deformable intraocular lens is placed in said enclosing member.

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17. An insertion device for inserting into the eye a deformable intraocular lens in which at least an optical portion is formed of an elastic material having predetermined memory characteristics or a deformable intraocular lens in which at least an optical portion is formed of an elastic material having predetermined memory characteristics and which has a supporting portion for supporting the optical portion within the eye, wherein said insertion device comprises an enclosing member having a hinge portion for receiving and holding the deformable intraocular lens in an enclosed manner, said enclosing member having grooves on the inner surface in order to allow placement of the deformable intraocular lens into a lens receiving section formed in said enclosing member when said enclosing member is opened, and each of said grooves having converging portions which are formed at front and rear sides of said grooves with respect to the pushing direction and which have a shape corresponding to the shape of the deformable intraocular lens.

18. An insertion device for inserting into the eye a deformable intraocular lens in which at least an optical portion is formed of an elastic material having predetermined memory characteristics and which has a supporting portion made of a material different from that of the optical portion and adapted to support the optical portion within the eye, wherein said insertion device comprises an enclosing member having a hinge portion for receiving and holding the deformable intraocular lens in an enclosed manner, said enclosing member having grooves on the inner surface in order to allow placement of the deformable intraocular lens into a lens receiving section formed in said enclosing member when said enclosing member is opened, and each of said grooves having converging portions which are formed at front and rear sides of said grooves with respect to the pushing direction and which have a shape corresponding to the shape of the deformable intraocular lens.

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